

Tardebigge and Bentley Parish Magazine

www.tardebiggechurch.org.uk Email: contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk St. Bartholomew's - March 2019



April 2019 - £1



Grosvenor House is a detached Victorian property, nestled between the peaceful villages of Alvechurch and Barnt Green, and is home to 25 residents.

Grosvenor House

Spring View Care

A high quality local nursing home

At Grosvenor House, we provide small homely environments where our residents are at the heart of everything we do. It is our aspiration to provide nursing homes where we ourselves would be happy to stay.



Spring View Care is proud to announce that Grosvenor House has been listed as one of the top 20 care homes in the West Midlands in 2015 and 2016



Grosvenor House: Aqueduct Lane, Coopers Hill, Alvechurch B48 7BS **Tel: 0121 447 7878**
Website: www.springviewcare.co.uk Email: mercy@springviewcare.co.uk

Church Services in April

Sunday 7th April (Lent 5)

- 9.30am **Café Church** in the Church Hall
- 11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer
- 6.00pm Traditional Holy Communion

Sunday 14th April (Palm Sunday)

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am **Family Communion** at St. Mary's
- 11.00am **Family Service** at St. Bartholomew's
- 6.00pm Evensong

Maundy Thursday

- 10.00am Holy Communion at St. Leonard's, Beoley
- 7.30pm Holy Communion at St. Stephen's, Redditch Town Centre

Good Friday

- 2.00pm 'At the Cross' at St. Bartholomew's
- 7.00pm 'At the Cross' at St. Philip's, Webheath

Easter Sunday

- 5.30am 'Sonrise' service at St. Bartholomew's, followed by breakfast
- 11.00am **Family Communion**
- 6.00pm Evensong



Sunday 28th April (Easter 2)

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am **Worship For ALL**
- 11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer
- 6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 5th May (Easter 3)

- 9.30am **Café Church** in the Church Hall
- 11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer
- 6.00pm Traditional Holy Communion

April



From Richard, the Team Rector



Easter is unusually late this year and so becomes a dominant feature in the calendar.

Easter is incredibly important and highly divisive, which pretty much sums up authentic Christianity. It is the nature of our belief or otherwise in the events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday that ultimately determine whether we welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives, and whether we accept the salvation that he has won for us through his sacrificial death on the cross. Islam, for example, does not believe that Jesus died on the cross at all.

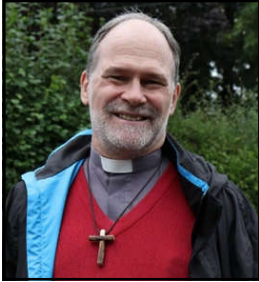
It is belief in the death and resurrection of Christ that leads logically to espousal of the Christian faith, belief in the Bible as the inspired word of God, rejection of the thoughts, attitudes and deeds that God doesn't like and the devotion of our lives to worship and serve Jesus, and not just God or gods, in the power of the Holy Spirit while rejecting all other spiritual forces, energies, etc. As Jesus observed, "no one is good except God alone". Jesus, being alive and being God, becomes our yardstick for life and our hope for everlasting life after death. Therefore, there is a great deal hanging on our belief or otherwise in the truth of the Easter as historical fact and not merely an inspiring story.

What especially saddens the heart of God is that His son died for everyone, and yet even this ultimate act of love is frequently met with a wall of indifference or embarrassment. People may have in their mind objections to the Christian faith that can shield them from ever truly considering its heart. Before looking at any objections to the faith, why not ask yourself, if that objection was dealt with, would I believe that Jesus died for my sins and rose again from the dead? If so, there will be a response to that objection that will be based on the Easter story. If not, I would suggest a re-examination of the evidence for the resurrection.

Easter is of supreme importance to any committed Christian. It was belief in the physical resurrection of Jesus that drove the Early Church forward in the face of sporadic but at time vicious persecution; Paul maintained that if the dead were not raised, that the church should forget the faith and eat, drink and be merry as death would be the end of all things. Christians



do not believe that adultery is wrong because they are not naturally inclined to have illicit sex; they abstain from sexual immorality because of Jesus, risen, ascended, glorified and seated at the right hand of the Father. Similarly, Christians will choose to invest their lives in the poor and needy, to spend their money on church mission and ministry, to turn up at church services, prayer meetings and Bible study groups, rather than indulge themselves in things which, if they heeded their natural inclination, might give them more pleasure but do far less good. All these choices are rooted in their belief in the death and resurrection of Jesus.



Some of us will greet Easter at St Bartholomew's in the cold light of dawn at the Sunrise service; others will do so later in the day. All across the globe Christians will sing God's praise on the Day of Days, remembering the events that changed the course of the history of the world for ever.

Richard

Holy Week

The Easter Story ~ A Passion Play

Wednesday 17 April 6pm-9pm at St. Stephen's, Redditch

Admission FREE (see Jane Hall for tickets)

Maundy Thursday ~ Holy Communion at St. Leonard's, Beoley at 10.00am;
at St. Stephen's, Redditch at 7.30pm

Good Friday ~ Walk of Witness from Redditch Baptist Church at 10.30am;
lunch at St. Stephen's 12noon

Messy Church for young families at Ecumenical Centre at 10.00am

At St. Bartholomew's, Tardebigge

Good Friday

At the Cross 2pm-3.15pm

Easter Sunday

5.30am 'Sunrise' service followed by breakfast

11.00am Family Communion

6.00pm Evensong

Wardens' World

April 2019

As Chris sits here trying to work out what on earth our Parliament thinks it is doing with Brexit, and watching coverage of southern Africa's cyclone disaster, and of the New Zealand mosque attacks, he does wonder whether the whole world is somehow running out of control...how fortunate we are, therefore, to have an oasis of calm and spirituality in the Tardebigge churches, where the seasons of the year and of the church still give us



some continuity and stability, as we move from winter to spring, and from Lent to Easter. Spring is sprung, the daffodils and hellebores are out in the churchyards at St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's, and Matt our groundsman is getting ready to fire up the lawnmower! Inside the churches, our sombre purple colours maintain the penitential mood until Easter day brings the joy of resurrection in white and gold.

We can thoroughly recommend to everyone the unique 'Sonrise' service at Tardebigge – watching the dawn, holding communion with birdsong instead than Dudley Fowkes for background music, enjoying the bacon butties afterwards...! With Easter so late this year it will require a degree of motivation to get up for a 5.30 am service, but it does leave more time for Easter egg hunting afterwards! For those who prefer a holiday lie-in, there are of course our normal services at more humane times!

By the time you read this, we may also have passed our Annual Parish Meeting on the evening of Tuesday April 2nd – we hope that many of you took the opportunity to have a say in how the church is run and elect the new churchwardens and PCC representatives.



Our next upcoming event is the Plant Sale on May 11th, which is always full of bargain plants and new blooms for restocking your gardens. Join in the fun by selling at a stall, bring along plants for others to sell, or just plant up some pots and let us know where to collect them – all contributions are welcome! For more details please see the article elsewhere in the magazine.

Lastly, we are very pleased to announce that sufficient people want to see the Tardebigge Show continuing this year, and it will go ahead on Saturday September 14th. As our major fund-raising activity each year, it is vital that our community makes it a success! Have a look at the article below, and see where you can help out, even if only for a couple of hours!

Chris and Dean

Tardebigge Show Lives!



Know your onions? Then bring them along to the 2019 Tardebigge Show! We are delighted to announce that a good number of the Tardebigge community want to see the Tardebigge Show go ahead again in 2019, and **Saturday September 14th** is the date!

We already have volunteers keen to run our most popular activities: the Produce Show, teas, cake sales, a bookstall, the Grand White Elephant, a beer

tent, and summer favourites like the coconut shy and glasses of Pimms. We have plenty of ideas for other stalls, attractions and children's activities, just waiting for more of you to join in the action!

We particularly need young and able-bodied people who can commit to just a few hours' work on the day or the preceding Friday night, who can help set up or dismantle, do some organising, maybe run a stall or help with directing traffic...there are jobs for all ages and skills! The more people we have, the less work for everyone, and the more opportunities there are for a breath of fresh air enjoying the community spirit!

If you want to be a part of this, don't miss out. Just contact Chris Milton (07825 749767), Revd. Richard Clark (01527 543967), check the website or talk to anyone you know who is involved already in the **Tardebigge Show 2019!**





Bumps, Babes and Toddlers

at St. Philip's Church, Webheath



Thursday mornings 9.30am-11.30am

Suggested donation £2 per family
Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.



St Philips Bumps Babes
and Toddlers



St. Philip's, Church Road, Webheath, B97 5PD
www.stphilipwebheath.org.uk

Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: rhredditch@gmail.com

Café Church – 1st Sunday of the month
In the Church Hall



Family Friendly Worship in a Café Style
Breakfast is served from **9am**
Worship from **9.30am**
There is **no charge** for refreshments.

Annual Magazine subscriptions

£10 collected or hand delivered; £16 by post.

Payments can be made pay by cheque (*made payable to Tardebigge PCC*), cash or via BACS (*quoting MAGA & your surname as the reference please*)

(Account no: 70799599 Sort Code 40-38-07)

For enquiries contact Dean or Jane Hall
(contact details inside back cover)

*Thank you for supporting
St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's Churches*

May Magazine

Please send your articles and items to our central email address:

contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk by MONDAY 22nd April

News from School

In March we enjoyed our science week and we included visits to local schools to explore forensic science, conduct experiments around sound, and to interview a real astronaut from NASA. We also welcomed three chemists from Birmingham University to conduct experiments around polymers and natural plastics that could help the environment.

Tardebigge First School now has a collecting bin in the office reception area for items of food. This is to support Catshill Foodbank. Parents, carers and visitors to the school are invited to donate items of food, especially if there are any supermarket offers such as 'Buy one, get one free'. (The foodbank is an independent one, based at Catshill Baptist Church).



Our Year 2 children recently had an exciting experience with our Space Camp. They came back into school at 5.30pm and completed space themed activities. The children then slept overnight in the classroom in little sleep pods/tents, before enjoying a cooked breakfast the following morning in the Community Hall.

*Bradley, all ready
for Space Camp*

J.E.H.

Contact details:

Telephone: 01527 872886

Email: office@tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Julie Cutler



Celestial Corner

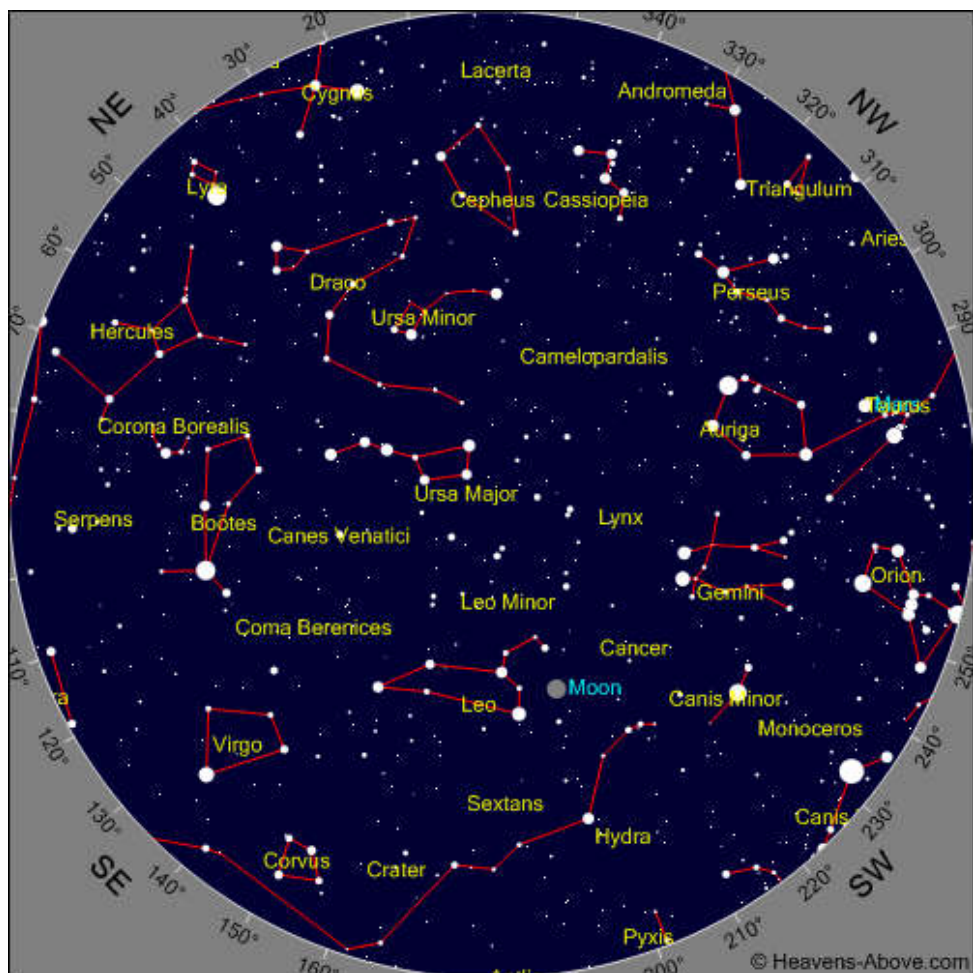
Here we are in April, coming up to Easter, the worst of the winter weather is over and we are looking forward to the summer.

The night sky is also changing, from winter to spring, as Orion and his bright companions dip down below the western horizon and the spring triangle and it's associates take over the southern sky at midnight.

At 10pm on the 14th Orion is just about visible, but Gemini and Canis Minor are still well up, with Cancer (the crab) a bit further to the east. Below Cancer is the head of Hydra, (the watersnake), a faint straggling constellation that sprawls along the south horizon passing underneath the spring triangle and Corvus, (the crow). Corvus is only a small constellation but it is easy to imagine a crow in the four stars that form a cross, with the star nearest Leo marking the tail and the lowest one marking the head and the other two the wings. (see map). It is like a small version of Cygnus (the swan)! The first of the spring triangle, Leo (the lion), is easy to recognise with the stars marking his head and chest in the form of a back-to-front question mark, with 1st magnitude star Regulus at it's base. The next member of the triangle is Virgo (the virgin) with the blueish 1st mag star Spica. The depiction on the map is not a very good one I'm afraid, not at all like the one I grew up with, which gives a better indication of the virgin's form. Arcturus, in Bootes (the herdsman), the third member of the triangle is still climbing up in the east. Using our old friend the plough as our signpost, look for Leo directly below the square of the body of the plough, the two pointers at the end of the plough point to Regulus. Then if we follow the curve of the plough handle and keep going, we come to Bootes. Virgo lies between and below the two.

Only one planet is in the evening sky at present, the red planet Mars. It lies in Taurus (the bull), low down in the west. It has traveled a fair way while it has been an evening object, from Saggitarius, through Capricorn, Pisces, and Aries, almost half the celestial globe. It will move into Gemini next month but will be quite faint as we leave it behind and it disappears behind the sun around early June. Jupiter is still a morning object, rising around 2am. Venus, to all intents and purposes, disappeared from the morning sky in March and will not appear in the evening after sunset until November. Unfortunately, because the sun is moving south with Venus ahead of it, Venus will set at the same time, or shortly after the sun and so will be very hard to see until Dec/January. Then, of course, the sun is beginning it's journey back north and Venus will be higher in the sky and so easier to see. I shall try to explain it next month and also talk a bit about double stars.

The map is for 10 pm on April 14th. Another sign we are in spring and getting close to summer, the time is later!



R.B.

The Midland Sinfonia

Saturday 18 May 2019 at 7.30pm

St. Laurence Church and The Ark, Alvechurch, B48 7SB

The Choice is Yours

Bax—String Quartet in G; Grieg - Peer Gynt Suite for String Quartet

plus audience choice - upon arrival you will be given a list of popular classics to choose from

Astaria String Quartet

Tickets in advance (£11 or £14) from Gin & Pickles, The Square, Alvechurch

Tickets on the door £12 or £15 (Students FREE)

The Evergreens

Evergreens is a group that meets in the afternoon several times a year and is open to all people, though it tends to be those who are retired who come along.

If you need further information please ring either
Vivien Mackenzie (0121 445 1245) or Mary Watkins (0121 445 3075).

Evergreens Meeting March 2019

Fourteen of us gathered in the Church Hall on Monday 18th March for the first afternoon meeting of 2019 and tea, cake and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be pm **Monday 13th May**, at the usual time of 4.00pm. Please note that this is the second Monday of the month.

All are invited to join us and if a lift is required, please do not hesitate to get in touch by contacting Vivien (0121 445 1245) or Mary (0121 445 3075).

Vivien and Mary



Listening Service

for those affected by sexual abuse

You can expect a Listener to:

- Listen to you sensitively, help you share your experience and take what you say seriously
- Guide you to find further help, for example, if you feel you need professional counselling
- Inform you about how to raise concerns about the abuse, if you choose to do so
- Maintain confidentiality except, of course, where this is restricted by the requirements of the law

I will listen - you will be heard

What is meant by 'confidentiality'?

- Confidentiality and secrecy do not mean the same thing
- Confidentiality is of the highest importance but it cannot be absolute in every circumstance
- Some agreed factual information that the meeting has occurred will be recorded and held securely and confidentially
- Any revelation that raises the concern of the listener, that the person being listened to has abused or is a potential abuser, must be referred to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser in line with national policy and our legal obligations

Listening Service

For further information on our Listening Service please contact Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Hilary Higton
T: 07495 060869 E: hhigton@cofe-worcester.org.uk
www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

Complaints: www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/diocesancompendium/safeguarding/complaints-whistleblowers/



Kingdom People
love • compassion • justice • freedom
www.churchofengland.org

The Spring Greens

The Spring Greens is our ladies' group for women of all ages with a young outlook. We usually meet in the Church Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 7.45pm. For more details please contact Jane Hall (07980 358252); or Email janeehall73@gmail.com



On Thursday 21st March, seven of us met up for a meal at the Robin Hood, Rashwood, nr. Droitwich and enjoyed a lovely evening. (See photo)

New members always welcome!

Jane Hall



BluWave Community Transport is a new transport initiative supported by Bromsgrove and Redditch councils. If you need help with transport for appointments with GPs, hospitals, day centres, exercise classes etc. and live in Bromsgrove or Redditch, Bluwave may be able to help.

Volunteers provide transport on weekdays to all hospitals, surgeries and social activities. They then wait for you and return you home, all for a modest cost. If you need an escort, the escort travels free of charge. Unfortunately they cannot currently transport wheelchair users.

If you enjoy driving and have some spare time, why not volunteer your services as a driver? You can take on as much or as little as you like, all expenses are paid and training is provided.

For more details, call Celia or Carole on 01527 759650
www.bluwave.org.uk



A Dog's Heaven

“ Grandma, do dogs have a heaven?”
My grandson, Harry asked me one day,
“Do they have spirits like we do
Will they be waiting in a land far away?”

Now Harry brought back many memories
Of all the dogs I have loved down the years,
Each had their own personality
At each passing I had shed many tears.

“Dogs”, I explained to young Harry
“Capture our heart in millions of ways,
They are faithful and give of their loyalty
Both the pampered ones and the poor strays.

The Heaven I envisage is peaceful
With green fields where animals roam,
So yes, our dogs will be waiting
In a Paradise, which we'll all call our Home”.



L M Wadlow

The 'harmonium' at St. Mary's, Bentley – first instalment!

In a bid to make cleaning easier and create more space at the back of St. Mary's, I was asked if I could find a home for the R. F. Stevens harmonium which had been donated to the church many years ago, though not played in living memory.

I duly did a little research (whilst we assumed it wasn't valuable, you don't want to put it on eBay for 50p and then find it's worth £50,000!) and tracked down an expert who was able to confirm that it was indeed a fairly common model and not worth much at all – "in fact, you'll probably have to pay someone to take it away!".

Robert Barnett, the choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's, thinks he remembers the organ arriving at St. Mary's at some point in the 1960s; I had a look in our parish magazine archive, but we don't have many magazines from the 60s and there is no information about the harmonium in the ones we do have. As a result, I'd be most grateful to hear from anyone who can fill in a bit of the back story here – who donated the harmonium to St. Mary's, where had it been before that?

I duly put the harmonium on eBay for £1 with the proviso that "buyer collects". Truthfully, I was expecting to have to relist it several times and possibly not sell it at all, so imagine my delight when it sold at the end of the first auction period and the buyer contacted me to arrange collection!

Now in his sixties, Ian has been a harmonium enthusiast almost all his life, buying and restoring his first when he was just eighteen. I was immensely grateful to Sarah Carless who joined me at St. Mary's to meet Ian and help load the (very heavy!) harmonium into his camper van – but not before we had been treated to a video clip from his phone showing him playing the last harmonium he restored. He also provided a fascinating insight into what he says are officially called "reed organs". Ian was very taken by St. Mary's itself and insisted on a generous donation on top of his notional £1 purchase price.

I'm delighted to report that Ian has since contacted me to let me know that he has the harmonium (sorry, reed organ!) in pieces and whilst there is indeed mouse damage, as we suspected (they've stolen all the felt from the inside to make an enormous and very dirty nest!), the damage overall is less than he imagined and he is confident that he will be able to get it working again. It looks as though the reed organ is not R.F. Stevens after all, but restored by them at some point and originally made by the The Imperial Organ & Piano Company, Ltd. Ian is taking photos as he goes along, so I hope to be able to give a more detailed report in future.

In the meantime, do get in touch if you are able to provide any more information to help fill in the gaps!

Lucy Parkes

ljparkes@btinternet.com, 01527 871132

April 2003

Priest-in-charge: Ven. Frederick Hazell

Church Wardens: Mrs Jean Honeybourne & Mr Roger Powell

PCC Secretary: Mrs Alma Westwood **PCC Treasurer:** Mr Bert Gateley

Choirmaster: Mr Raymond Hopkins **Sexton & Sacristan:** Mr Fred Shrimpton

* * *

Dear People of Tardebigge and Bentley,

The Church calls the week before Easter, "Holy Week". It is a time for Christians to pay particular attention, through prayer, worship and study of the Bible, to certain events at the heart of their faith. It isn't, of course, that this particular week is more "holy" than any other week. Holiness derives not from an ecclesiastical mandate, but from lives focussed on God. But this doesn't mean that we needn't take Holy Week seriously. On the contrary, we should treat it as a great opportunity to enter more deeply into our faith. Holy Week is an invitation to dissatisfaction with routine Church going. It is a call to putting Jesus Christ into the centre of our lives.

Could I urge all my readers to take Holy Week seriously in these ways:

1. Spend, say 20 minutes each day reading from the four Gospels about the events which led up to the crucifixion of Our Lord. The Passion Narratives, as they are called, need to be read, re-read, meditated upon and prayed about.
2. Do your best to join your fellow Christians in Church on these days:

Palm Sunday - after the distribution of Palm Crosses in the Church Hall at 11.00 o'clock, we process to Church for the reading of the Passion Gospel, in which the congregation participates. This is the best way to begin Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday - this is the day the Lord gave the Eucharist to his disciples with the command, "Do this". As we do it and consider the words, "This is my Body", "This is my Blood", we are brought face to face with a stark fact. Our salvation and the world's redemption were secured not by the imposition of Commandments or a Creed, but by a life given in Sacrifice.

Good Friday - this day, at 2 o'clock, we pause before the Cross, "in wonder, love and praise". No Easter celebration can mean very much when Good Friday is ignored.

Please do have a good Holy Week and so enter more deeply into the joy of Easter.

Frederick Hazell

The Tardebigge Relief in Need and Sickness Charity

This a consolidated charity that provides support for people living in the former boundaries of the ecclesiastical parish of Tardebigge, including Tardebigge, Upper and Lower Bentley as far as Foster's Green and Woodgate Road, Webheath, Brockhill and Batchley. There must be a demonstrable connection with the trust area, whose complete boundaries can be provided on request.

Applications are invited for the relief of those struggling financially, or assistance for those who have a physical or mental health issue. We can make grants to individuals or those who help them, or pay for goods, services or facilities. A residential link with the trust area is required, although the residency need only be temporary. The trust also welcomes donations or legacies; the restrictive nature of the trusts means that all monies given to the charity will be spent on local people and their needs. It is a trust where charity truly begins at home.

The trust has recently supported local schools and schoolchildren who need funding for school trips, assistance to schools in areas of deprivation, Redditch Night Stop and Food Bank, assistance towards a disability access ramp for the new Webheath Church annex and equipment for Birchensale scouts. Emergency help can be obtained and has been used to support a sudden homeless person or other unexpected crisis.

The Charity is managed by Trustees who all have a connection with the area covered by the trust, including two representatives from Bentley Pauncefoot and Tutnall and Cobley Parish Councils, and Redditch Borough Council. The Team Rector, The Revd Richard Clark is the Chair and a trustee ex officio and Stewart Mason from St Philip's Webheath is the treasurer.

To apply for help from this charity please contact Gail Teague by email gail.teague@icloud.com or telephone 01527 541991. A request form will then be passed to you for completion. If it is an emergency, then the Rev. R Clark has a discretionary fund from he can make small emergency grants.

The trust is the result of Victorian philanthropy, and is the consolidation of:
The Queen Victoria (1897) Jubilee Convalescent Homes Fund
The Charity of Endimion Canning (also known as Canning's Bread Charity)
The Charity of James Holyoake
The Charity of John Johnson

If anyone has any information about the original charities from which the trust is formed, we would be delighted to hear about it!

The Revd Richard Clark



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FREE
EVENT

ST STEPHEN'S
THE CHURCH ON THE GREEN
& INDIGO ARTS
PRESENTS
**THE
EASTER STORY**
A PASSION PLAY

BY ELAINE WHITFIELD
AT ST STEPHEN'S
CHURCH
WEDNESDAY

**17TH
APRIL
2019
6.30PM**
(DOORS OPEN 6PM)

FREE TICKETS

Available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/mdigoarts
and the Word Christian Bookshop St Stephen's Church,
Church Green, Redditch B97 4DY
Enquiries: 07484 841016

ST STEPHEN'S
THE CHURCH ON THE GREEN

Plant Sale - May 11th 2019 – HELP!

Here's this year's start on the Plant Sale from me – had hoped everything might be a bit further on after that hot spell in February, but never mind!



Do get in touch with me as soon as you get the April magazine if you are able to help with the Plant Sale this year – manning a stall, making a cake, providing plants, pricing or putting out tables on the previous Friday evening ... your help is invaluable, so do contact me now, while you think about it!

This is always a lovely community event, so I look forward to hearing from you.

Lucy Parkes

01527 871132 / 07817 067730 / ljparkes@btinternet.com



churches
together
in Redditch

Good Friday



Walk of Witness

April 19th 2019

From: **Redditch Baptist Church:**

Easemore Road

Communion Service at 9.45 a.m.

Walk begins at 10.30am

Lunch at St Stephen's 12noon

Contact for information: Heather Berry – 01527 60638
vicar@ststephensredditch.com



www.messychurch.org.uk

Emmanuel Church,
Ecumenical Centre,
6 Evesham Walk,
Redditch, B97 4EX





Welcome!

TabbyCats Pet Hotel is a licensed family run boarding establishment designed and built around the security, comfort and needs of its feline only guests . . . home from home

TabbyCats
Pet Hotel

33 Brotherton Avenue,
Webheath, Redditch, B97 5SA
Tel: 07971 633732 • Email:
tabbycatspethotel@gmail.com

Opening Hours
9.30am to 12 Noon
and
4.30pm to 5.30pm

Except
Thursday & Sunday
9.30am to 12 Noon



'Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' Matthew 13: v 32

Pips

at St. Philip's Church, Webheath

Stories, Songs and Games
For 3-7 year olds

Every 2nd Thursday of the month
3.45pm - 4.40pm

Starting with a drink and a biscuit!



St. Philip's, Church Road, Webheath, B97 5PD

www.stphilipswebheath.org.uk

Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: trhtredditch@gmail.com



St Mary's Church

St Mary's is a countryside Church located in Lower Bentley.

St Mary's is licensed to Publish Banns and for the

Solemnization of Marriage.

St Mary's is ideal for small, intimate weddings, being able to accommodate up to fifty guests.

For further information contact

Jane Hall, Parish Clerk
on 07980 358252 or email:
contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk

Walk from Hunt End to Old Yarr, Feckenham - Monday 18 March



No report of our celebrated walks would be complete without a mention of the weather, so after a week of heavy downpours it was good to see a group of six cheerful walkers meeting in (almost) spring-like conditions. After posing for the now obligatory group photo, we set off from the Windmill Centre (scene of many merry Soroptimist quiz evenings) following a footpath along the Wharrage Brook, and soon leaving the outskirts of the town.

The sense of the Spring season was enhanced by the profusion of blackthorn blossom and early green hedgerows along our route, which rapidly became more rural as we walked along country lanes with attractive cottages and views of hillside meadows. A short climb up Tippings Hill, past the intriguingly named Featherbed Lane – does anyone know its origin? – brought us to Love Lyne, and past a historic timbered farmhouse with its granary set on stone supports (designed in earlier times to preserve the grain from predators), and a further impressive farm building dating from the era of Queen Anne.

Here a footpath (via the first of several stiles) took us across pleasant fields to the lavishly restored Old Yarr farm, with its ornamental lake and ponds, and bordered by rows of magnificent daffodils. Until only a few years ago, rambles could follow a footpath - once used by workers in the local cottage industries - directly across the grounds in front of the house, but recent owners have, not unreasonably, redirected the path to a less intrusive route.

After crossing the lane leading to nearby Feckenham, we took a path via a footbridge over the brook, and then a short climb up a hill rewarding us with clear views of Worcestershire's iconic Malverns. A section of the famous Monarch's Way (reputably the route taken by Charles 1 in retreat) led across gently rolling countryside and then (past some somewhat muddy fields and several stiles) to the welcome stability of a track passing some attractively renovated barns, and a site associated with pilgrims from Bordesley Abbey.

After so many reminders of the area's history, it was quite comforting to enjoy modern amenities. A two minute car drive took us to refreshments at the nearby Bramley Cottage, which provided refuge from the steadily advancing drizzle: a sincere thank you to all who took part and remained cheerful despite the eventual onset of rain and the strenuous effect of climbing so many stiles!

Bentley Pauncefoot WI



Vivien's corsage

With the coming of Spring, Bentley members have emerged from hibernation in a series of activities which have stirred their creativity and their brain cells. Seven of us took part in an excellent Rag Rug Workshop run by Annette Wright from Hanbury WI. She was an inspirational tutor who transformed what was once a utilitarian craft into a therapeutic art form. There is something extremely

satisfying about using a rotary cutter to shred an old t shirt into strips for a rug, picture or corsage. At the end of the two workshops, we had enjoyed the company of friends and were well on the way to completed projects.



Michelle's Christmas wreath

Later in March, a large group from Bentley went on an "Awayday" to Worcester. We travelled by train and then enjoyed a healthy walk to the Museum of Royal Worcester. Reinvigorated by coffee at The Nest, members explored the delights of the Museum. We admired examples of the exquisite pieces produced from the time of Dr Wall to the twentieth century. We were also able to talk to a gilder who used to work at the factory and was demonstrating his intricate craft.

A thought provoking experience was provided by the Federation Spring Council Meeting held at the Artrix. The keynote speaker was Alison Ogden Newton from the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign. She was very entertaining and spoke passionately about the work of the charity. As WI members, we are proud that the WI was involved from the very beginning because in 1954 the NFWI passed a resolution to keep Britain tidy. However, we were interested to learn that the work today goes far beyond clearing litter. The group runs the Blue Flag Award for beaches and the Green Flag scheme for parks. It educates the young regarding the needs of the environment through its eco schools. It also has initiatives to reduce waste and to protect the planet; not least the elimination of single use plastic. It does not flinch from hard hitting poster campaigns. Alison explained the logic behind a recent campaign to encourage people to get rid of their cigarette butts responsibly. We had not realised that they are plastic and full of toxic chemicals which if tossed down drains for instance will contaminate our water supply eventually. At the end of her talk our heads were full of sustainability issues and practical measures we could take to reduce waste and safeguard our neighbourhood.

The final stimulus to our mental capacities came with a WI Group Quiz. Bentley entered two teams. In brief it was neck and neck until the last round, but the "Name the Dog" questions proved a woof too far for the Les Quizerables team. The Bentley Bumpkins won by two points because they knew the name of the fictional dog from "Donaldson's Dairy", a children's picture book. (Hairy Maclary for those of you who are interested).

Lynne Reading



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Sidesmen Rota

7th April

11.00am - E Price and P Hopkins
6.00pm - P Hopkins

14th April

8.00am - D Hall
11.00am - J Oldaker and L Parkes
6.00pm - M Price

21st April

11.00am - D Stubbings and V Mackenzie
6.00pm - P Hopkins

28th April

8.00am - G R Underhill
11.00am - V Richardson and P Hopkins
6.00pm - T Powell

Flower Rota



7th April

Lent (no flowers)

14th April

Lent (no flowers)

21st April

Easter (team)

28th April

Karen Barnett

5th May

Elizabeth Price

Registers

Baptisms



Sunday 3rd March

Freya Rose DAVIES
Delilah Peggy-Rae DAVIES

Sunday 10th March

Isaac Paul FRYER

Sunday 17th March

Joshua Paul HARRISON
Edward Robert HARRISON

Sunday 31st March

Alexander Robert John MAIN

Funerals



Monday 11th March

Flora OWENS



10th April - Val Richardson

10th April - Daisy Mary Morgan

15th April - Nicholas Watkins

15th April - Dean Hall

17th April - Sue Clark

21st April - Richard Clark



10th April

Jane & Rob Oldaker

Webheath Digital Photography Club



Our annual competition against Kempsey Camera Club took place at their HQ on 13 February. Martin Key, an international judge, offered his opinions and many helpful suggestions. Although it was felt he was judging the entries at an international level rather than Club level this, of course, applied to all images. Kempsey won by 418 to 396 points. Our top scoring image of Waterlilies

by Dave Rodgers drew a deserved twenty points.

On Monday 18 March we had a knock-out competition. While the initial round of 64 Images had been arranged to give matched pairs for theme or subject this soon broke down to give the usual confusing and amusing matches. Eventually Graham Bastock's Buttermere Mists won – somebody has to.



The next week was an Assignment with themes of "Weird or Wonderful". This was an animated and sometimes hilarious evening. Two most welcome new members, mother and son, Margaret and Paul Widdowson, joined in, Margaret with her swan family from Abbotsbury and Paul with "Moots" – a family pet cat and probably best not to ask!



Our speaker on 25 February was Tal Chohan, showing us the tricks to be used to get realistic shots of animals in zoos. He illustrated his talk with some stunning images of big cats and other animals looking relaxed and at home. He told us of the necessary tricks to use when photographing through glass and wire mesh barriers and the imaginative use of lighting.

Solihull Photographic Society were our guests for the annual competition in the Village Hall on 10th March. We were able to welcome a large contingent of their members to enjoy Terry Livesey's perceptive and helpful comments on the fifty images on show. He congratulated the authors on the very high quality of their entries, especially the landscapes. This was reflected in the difficulty he had in assigning marks. Finally he gave three of the Webheath Club's images twenty points each, including "Buttermere Mist" (above) and "Move Over", which featured here in February. WDPC were the eventual winners with 424 points to Solihull's 373, a highly satisfactory evening.

On 1st April the Club's programme will start with a return visit by Darren Leeson and his colleague, to talk on "Chalk and Cheese" and "Astro Photography". The next week we have an Assignment night "Aperture Priority or Blue". The following week we have John Haines as our speaker with a break for Easter Monday. The month closes on 29th with another Assignment, "Transport or Green".

The Village Hall, Webheath, is our usual venue on Monday evenings at 7:30, except Bank Holidays and through Christmas and the New Year. Our range of external speakers is chosen to reflect both the technical and artistic aspects of photography. Anyone with an interest in digital photography, whether the owner of a compact camera or the latest DSLR, is very welcome to come along to our regular meetings. During the summer the members may be away from the hall on location for an organised evening photoshoot. Our Club website is webheathdpc.com where you can find details, such as how to contact us, our programme for 2019 and more. You can also find us on Facebook as Webheath Digital Photography Club and www.instagram.com/WebheathDPC will also find us. Our gallery of prints on the wall by Wilko's in the shopping centre has been refreshed with new images. Already members are being asked to look out images for the next instalment!

P. Dewell April 2019

* * * * *

Verse for the Month

**And if Christ has not been raised,
our preaching is useless and so is your faith.**

1 Corinthians 15: 14

Sudoku

		4				6		1
		7	2				8	
		9	3					2
			1					9
6	2	1	5		9	4	7	3
5					4			
4					3	5		
	3				2	8		
1		6				3		

Solution next month

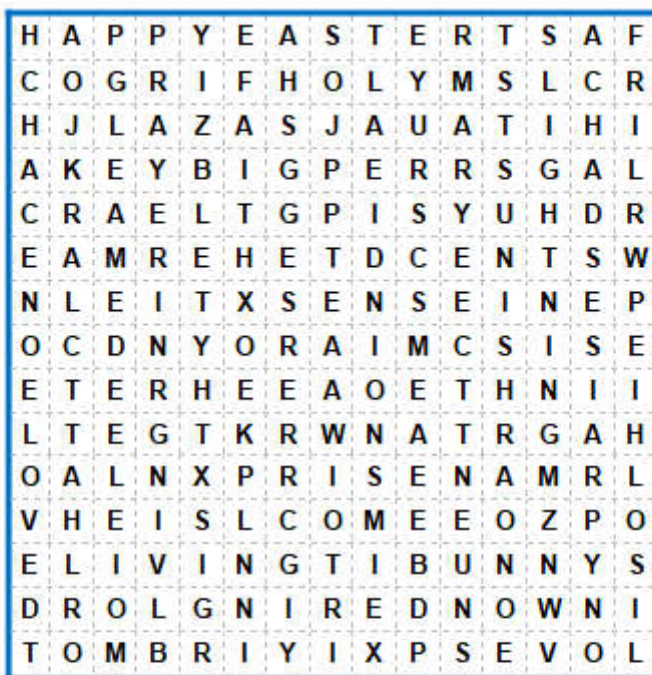
5	8	9	6	1	7	3	4	2
2	4	1	3	5	9	8	6	7
3	7	6	8	4	2	9	5	1
4	9	2	7	6	8	1	3	5
6	3	8	1	2	5	7	9	4
7	1	5	9	3	4	6	2	8
8	2	3	4	9	1	5	7	6
9	5	7	2	8	6	4	1	3
1	6	4	5	7	3	2	8	9

Last month's solution

Word Search

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"

Luke 24: 1-6



SPICES

GLEAMED

TOMB

ENTERED

LIGHTNING

WOMEN

WONDERING

RISEN

LIVING

Words to be found may be forward, backward, vertical or diagonal within the puzzle



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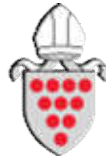
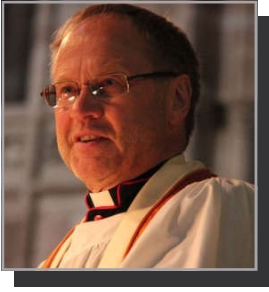
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A Letter from the Archdeacon of Worcester

It seems to me that certain key truths in our lives are beyond words. Not for nothing has the Church brought poets, hymn writers, painters, artists and musicians into its life to express what words are not adequate to say. The same happens with those we love. We use signs and symbols to say what we mean - sometimes we say it with flowers. Our presents are not judged by their monetary value, indeed the smallest gift can be the most affecting: it is the love they express which counts.

I think Jesus knew this instinctively. It is worth noting that he wasn't given to delivering great lectures, but did tell an amazing amount of parables. He asked many, many questions, and actually didn't give a lot of answers. He had a way of inviting his listeners into the response required, and showed his power by acts of love. He was a sure hand in what we might call 'walking the walk', rather than 'talking the talk'. This marked him out from among the other religious teachers: it gave him an authority 'not of the scribes and Pharisees.'

The mystery of Good Friday and Easter is one such key truth. We tell the story from the gospel accounts, and can point to the after-effects in the lives of the apostles. We journey with Jesus as he walks the walk to the Cross through the services of Holy Week, and with flowers and Alleluias our churches burst into the new life He gives on Easter Day. In doing so we glimpse the glory of the God for whom death does not have the last word, not ever. Jesus does not just tell us this: he lives it, you could say he dies it, and is raised from the dead by the God for whom the first and last word is always Love.

We are called to live the risen life of Jesus too. Christ is risen, we are risen – that is from one of our Easter hymns. George Herbert, poet, pastor and priest, expresses it so beautifully, where else but in a poem:

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise
Without delays,
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise
With him mayst rise.
That, as his death calcined thee to dust,
His life may make thee gold, and much more just.

Robert Jones

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